REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3-12, 14-43, 45-47, 49-51, 53-55 and 57 remain

pending in this application.   Claims 1 and 41 have been

amended.   No claims have been canceled.   New claim 57 has been

added.

Priority

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgment of

the claim for priority and safe receipt of the priority

document.

35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 9-11, 12, 22-24, 25, 28-33, 41-43, 45-47, 49-51

and 53-55 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being

unpatentable over Duursma et al (U.S. Patent 2002/0103884) in

view of Levergood et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,708,780).   These

rejections are traversed as follows.

The present invention is directed to an information

distributing method in which displayed information A (the

first information or primary information) contains a link to

quoted information B (the second information)(see Fig. 15A).

As shown in Figs. 15A-C and described in the specification,

document A includes a link for document B.   When document B is

requested, such as by clicking on the link to document B,

server B determines whether or not document B is permitted to

be transferred to the client.   If transfer is permitted,

document B is transferred from server B (see Fig. 15B).   If

not, an indication of this denial is indicated as shown by

reference numeral 13 in Fig. 15C.

In other words, it is determined whether or not the link

to document is permitted to be transferred to the information

user unit 120 (also referred to as information display unit)

in response to an information request from the information

user unit 120.   This determination is based upon the

identifying information (Uniform Resource Identifier (URI))

included in the information request and information contained

in a quotation allowance database (see Fig. 7).   It should be

understood that the present invention does not merely relate

to simple access control in which requested information is

obtained with a browser program by inputting a (URI) to a

system.   Such type of simple access is shown, for example, by

steps 201-203 in Fig. 3.   On the other hand, the presently

claimed invention includes steps 201-209 of Fig. 3.

More precisely, as shown in Fig. 3, an information user

unit 120 issues a request for primary information as shown in

step 201.   In response, the primary information is transmitted

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and displayed (steps 202 and 203). At step 204, program codes

are requested by the information user unit 120. In response,

a second information providing resource unit 110 sends program

codes 4 (JAVA applet) to information user unit 120. At step

206, information user unit 120 activates the program codes

that are received. The program codes then acquire a URI of

the first information and issue an information request 5 with

a password included in the program codes to the second

information providing resource unit 110 (steps 207 and 208).

Upon receiving the information request 5 for the quoted

information, the common gateway interface (CGI) program of the

second information providing resource unit 110 verifies the

password (step 220 in Fig. 6) by checking whether or not the

password matches a password stored in a password database (see

Fig. 2). Then, in step 221 the program determines whether or

not an identifier of the requested information exists by

checking a quotation allowance database that stores the

identifier (ID) of the second (quoted) information and a URI

of first information allowed for quotation (see Fig. 7). Only

after these steps are successfully passed does the program

send the second (quoted) information to the information user

unit 120 (step 223). Otherwise, if these steps are not

successfully passed, the program sends information indicating

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that the transmission of the second information is not

permitted (step 224 in Fig. 6).

Therefore, according to the present invention, two

separate requests are made. First, a program request is sent

and then an information request is sent to a second

information providing resource unit 110 from the information

user unit 120. Upon receiving the information request, the

second information providing resource unit 110 determines

whether or not it is permitted to transmit the second

information to the information user unit 120 based upon

identifying information (URI) included in the second request

and information from a quotation allowance database (Fig. 7).

None of the cited references disclose the reception of

two separate requests nor disclose that the URI and the

quotation allowance database are used to determine whether or

not the information request for quoting second information is

permitted to be received by the information user unit 120.

Instead, the prior art references merely disclose that the URI

is used to specify a website or identify particular

information for transfer of a document or information from the

website. None of the cited references disclose or suggest the

two steps of request that are made for quoted information, nor

the two step determination of whether or not the second

request is permitted to be received by the information user

unit 120 based upon the identifying information (URI) included

in the request and information from a quotation allowance

database (Fig. 7). The quotation allowance database is a

correspondence table which indicates a correspondence between

an identifier code (ID) specifying second information for

which quotation is allowed in the second information providing

resource and an identifier of first information (URI) in the

first information providing source.

Duursma et al merely disclose a client-server network

system. Duursma et al's system merely determines which

application programs hosted by application servers are

available for use by a user of a client node based upon

information related to the user of the application and the

hardware required to run the application. A host server

receives application-related information corresponding to

application programs hosted by a plurality of servers in a

network. User credentials are received from the client's

system. Whether each hosted application program is available

to the client's system for execution is determined based upon

user credentials and the received application-related

information. Information is transmitted from the host server

to the client's system to indicate each hosted application

that is available to the client's system for execution. The

application-related information can be a variety of

information including, as mentioned by the Examiner, an

address of the server hosting that application, the

application name and the user or groups of users who are

authorized to use that application. Furthermore, the

application-related information can also include the minimum

capabilities required of the client node for establishing a

connection to run the application. Therefore, according to

Duursma et al, whether each hosted application is available to

a user for execution is determined based upon user credentials

and the received application-related information.

Furthermore, Duursma et al are not concerned with

displayed information that contains a link to an application

program or document. As such, Duursma et al are completely

silent with respect to a first document containing a link to a

second document. Thus, it is understandable that Duursma et

al are completely silent as to the access control to such a

linked application or document.

Duursma et al certainly do not disclose the reception of

two separate requests nor disclose that the URI and the

quotation allowance database are used to determine whether or

not transmission of the linked document is permitted. Duursma

et al merely show a simple application access control in which
an application program is not linked with another application
or document. Furthermore, Duursma et al disclose determining
whether or not this non-linked application program should be
available based upon the information related to the user of
the application and capabilities of the client node.

The deficiencies in Duursma et al are not overcome by
resort to Levergood et al. Levergood et al disclose that when
a user selects a link that is directed to an access-controlled
file, the server subjects the request to a secondary server
which determines whether the client has authorization or a
valid account. Upon verification, the user is provided with a
session identification (SID) which allows the user to access
the requested file as well as any other files within the
protected domain. When a user sends a request (first
information) to the server, if the user is an authorized user,
the authentication server issues an SID to the user. For a
new client, the authentication server may open a new account
and issue an SID thereafter. A valid SID typically includes a
user identifier, an accessible domain, a key identifier, an
expiration time such as date, the IP address of the user's
computer, and an unforgettable digital signature such as a
cryptographic hash of all of the other items in the SID

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encrypted with a secret key (see column 3, lines 21-43). The

SID does not include the URI. The authentication server then

forwards a new request consisting of the original Uniform

Resource Locator (URL) appended with the SID to the client in

a REDIRECT. The modified request formed by the new URL is

automatically forwarded by the client browser to the content

server. The content server receives this information and

validates the SID. If the SID is validated, the contents

server sends the requested document for display.

Therefore, it is clear that Levergood et al also fail to

disclose how to access a second document or application

contained in a link of a first document. Levergood et al also

do not disclose how to specifically control access to the

linked document or application. Therefore, it follows that

Levergood et al neither disclose nor suggest the reception of

two separate requests nor that the URI and the quotation

allowance database are used for determining whether or not the

transmission of the linked document or application is

permitted. In Levergood et al, the URI of the user requesting

an access controlled file is not contained in the request to
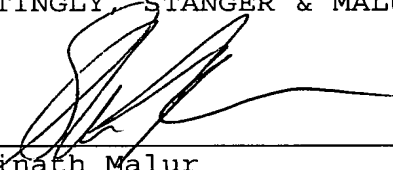
the server.

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Second Request for Interview

Applicants previously requested that the Examiner conduct
an interview with the undersigned prior to issuing a
subsequent office action, but the undersigned was not
contacted by the Examiner.   As such, the Examiner is hereby
requested to contact the undersigned by telephone to arrange
an appropriate time for the interview.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests
that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR

By_____

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